

REMARKS

The indication that claims 16-23 include patentable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. In reliance thereon, claims 11-13 and 15 have been canceled to place the application in condition for allowance.

Claims 16-23 were rejected under §112, second paragraph. Claim 16 has been amended and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The amendment to claim 16 defines the plate as having two fixing lugs, as described in the specification at page 5, lines 1-2. It is not believed that this amendment creates any new issues requiring further consideration and/or search as the amendment merely defines the plate in a manner consistent with the application as filed and within the scope of the claims as previously considered.

Claims 11-13 and 15 were rejected as unpatentable over RIETH EP 0108222 A2. These claims have been canceled and withdrawal of their rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the present amendment, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional  
fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

/Thomas W. Perkins/  
Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027  
745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone (703) 521-2297  
Telefax (703) 685-0573  
(703) 979-4709

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